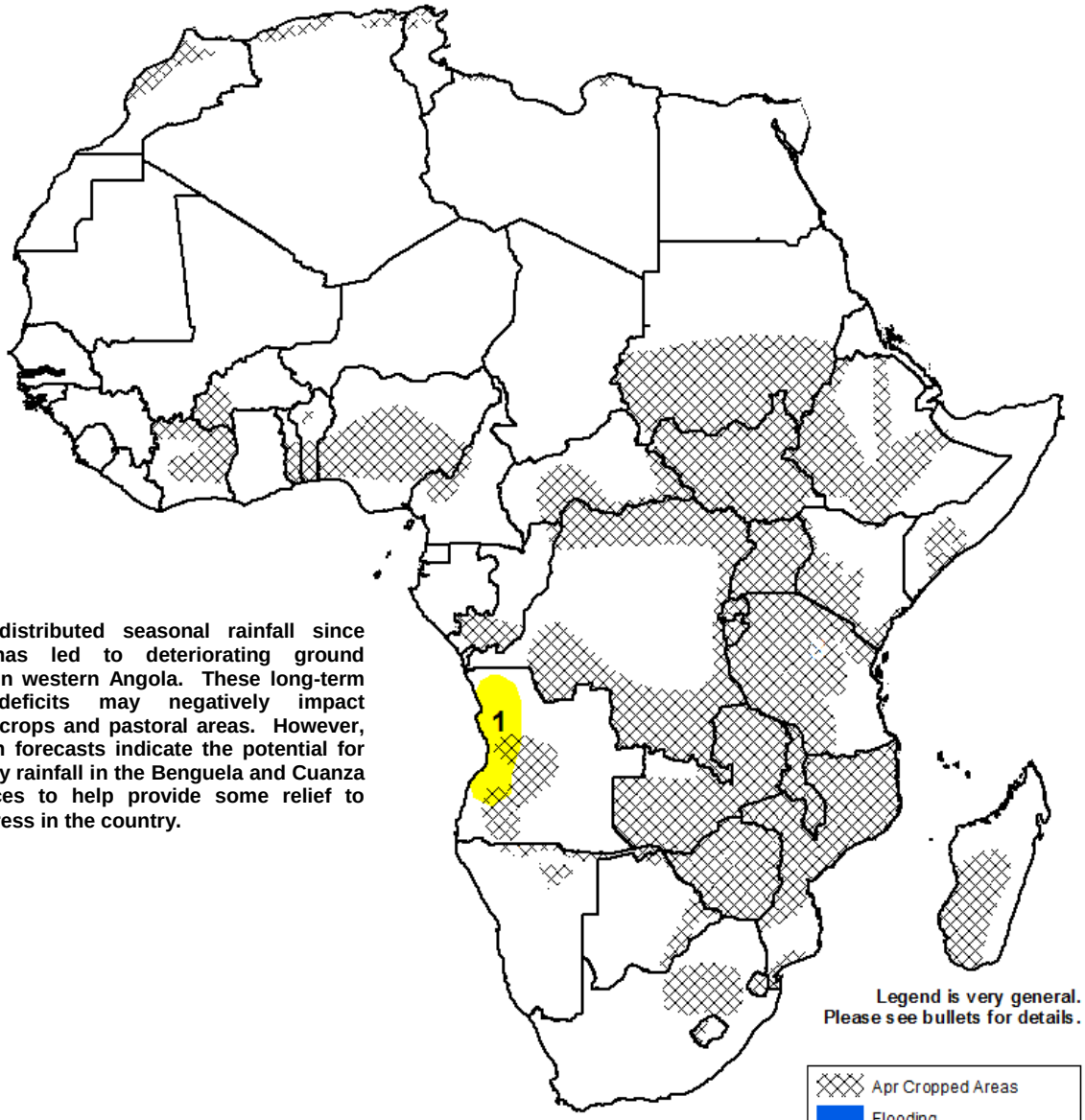
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
April 10 – April 16, 2014

- **Average to above average seasonal rainfall continues throughout many parts of the Greater Horn of Africa.**
- **The weakening of precipitation associated with the departure of the monsoon was observed across southern Africa.**



1) Poorly distributed seasonal rainfall since February has led to deteriorating ground conditions in western Angola. These long-term moisture deficits may negatively impact developing crops and pastoral areas. However, precipitation forecasts indicate the potential for locally heavy rainfall in the Benguela and Cuanza Sul provinces to help provide some relief to moisture stress in the country.

A continuation of favorable rainfall received in Ethiopia.

In early April, moderate to locally heavy rains were received throughout Ethiopia. The highest precipitation accumulations were estimated in the SNNP region, with rainfall totals ranging between 50-100mm, extending into some local areas in the eastern Amhara highlands. In eastern Ethiopia, increased rains and moisture was also observed in the eastern Oromia and Somali regions of the country. Towards the south, light to moderate rainfall accumulations were also received throughout eastern Kenya and in southern Somalia, however much of central Kenya saw little to no rainfall during the past week. In northern Tanzania, well-distributed amounts of rainfall were received across many bi-modal areas (**Figure 1**).

Since the beginning of March, much of Ethiopia observed average to above-average rainfall. Although western Ethiopia received the greatest positive moisture anomalies, many belg-producing areas in the eastern Amhara and northern Oromia experienced average to slightly above-average rainfall during the past month. According to observations from the National Meteorology Agency in Ethiopia, only a few local areas in the Amarha and southeastern Tirgray experienced below-average rainfall less than 75 percent of normal during the month of March. Overall, both the distribution of quantity of seasonal rainfall is expected to be favorable for the development of crops in Ethiopia.

For the upcoming outlook period, forecasts suggest a continuation of seasonal rains throughout much of Ethiopia. Locally heavy rainfall amounts in western Ethiopia are expected, with increased amounts expected extending further east into the Somalia region and northern Somalia (**Figure 2**). The return of moderate to locally heavy amounts of rainfall is also expected for parts of central Kenya.

Late season dryness develops in the southeast.

As the core of precipitation associated with southern Africa monsoon season migrates further north, several areas in southeastern African have begun to observe a dryness trend near the end of the season. Over the past 30 days, satellite estimated percent of normal rainfall depicts the center of this anomalous dryness throughout parts of northern Zimbabwe, western and central Mozambique and extending into parts of Malawi. Many local areas in this region have experienced less than 25 percent of their normal rainfall since mid-March, suggesting an early cessation of the monsoon (**Figure 3**). However, this late season dryness is reportedly not expected to have a negative impact on cropping activities in Mozambique, as much of the moisture received earlier in the season is expected to lead to near normal crop harvests. Precipitation forecasts indicate a continued reduction of rainfall in southeastern Africa, with amounts ranging between 10-25mm across Zimbabwe and Mozambique for upcoming week.

Satellite Estimated Rainfall (mm)
Valid: March 30 – April 5, 2014

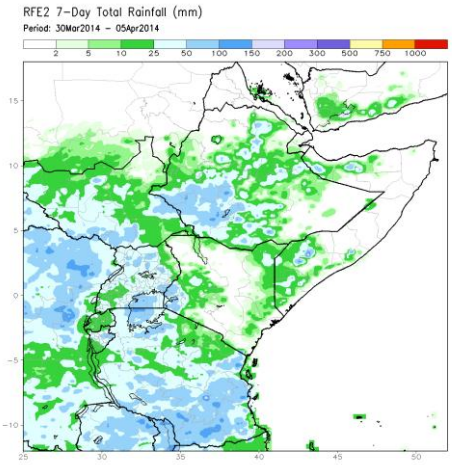


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

GFS Forecast Total Rainfall (mm)
Valid: April 7 – April 14, 2014

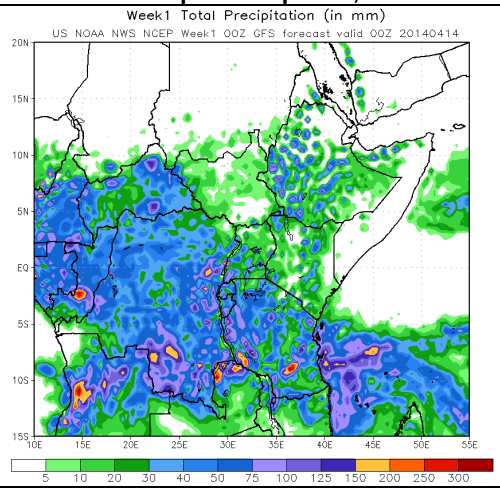


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

Satellite Estimated Percent of Normal Rainfall (mm)
Valid: March 7 – April 5, 2014

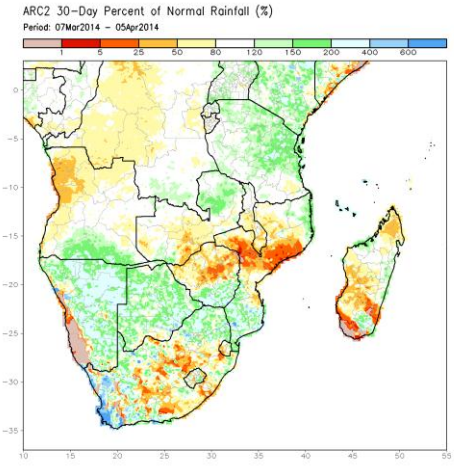


Figure 3: NOAA/CPC

Note: The hazards outlook map on page 1 is based on current weather/climate information and short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week). It assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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